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Amendment to Indian appropriation bill. Letter from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a communication from the Secretary of the Interior recommending an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895.

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AMENDMENT TO INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

*A communication from the Secretary of the Interior recommending an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895.*

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JANUARY 27, 1894.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *January 25, 1894.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, a communication from the Secretary of the Interior of the 22d instant, submitting a proposed amendment to the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1895, as follows:

To enable the Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, to pay per capita in cash to the Iowa Indians in Oklahoma the sum of \$24,000 appropriated by the act of February 13, 1891, as a partial payment to them for certain lands in Oklahoma ceded to the United States, in lieu of expending the same for their benefit.

Respectfully, yours,

W. E. CURTIS,  
*Acting Secretary.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, January 20, 1894.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith two copies of office letter dated March 5, 1892, recommending that the \$24,000 appropriated by act of Congress approved February 13, 1891 (Stats. 26, p. 755), ratifying an agreement with the Iowa Indians in Oklahoma, be paid to the Indians in cash in lieu of being expended in the purchase of stock, agricultural implements, etc., for their benefit.

In the communication referred to there was also transmitted a form of a proposed amendment to the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1893, then before the Senate, to provide for this cash payment,

with the further recommendation that it be submitted for the consideration of that body.

In accordance with the wish of the Department contained in its reference dated December 9, 1892, of a communication from Hon. Horace Speed, of Guthrie, Okla., the office again reported on this subject (under date of December 24, 1892), and repeated its former recommendation.

Inasmuch as the office still inclines to the belief that the Iowas will derive more benefit through the personal use of the money than they would if the purchases were made for them by the Government, I again submit the proposition, with the recommendation that the copies of correspondence herewith inclosed be transmitted to Congress during the present session, with the request that the amendment, as proposed, be incorporated in the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1895.

Very respectfully,

D. M. BROWNING,  
*Commissioner.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, *January 22, 1894.*

Respectfully forwarded to the honorable Secretary of the Treasury with the recommendation that the amendment, as proposed, be incorporated in the Indian appropriation bill, for the fiscal year 1895.

WM. H. SIMS,  
*Acting Secretary.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, March 5, 1892.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of a letter from the agent at the Sac and Fox Agency, Okla., in which he reports that there is much dissatisfaction among the Iowa Indians under his charge in regard to the proposed manner of expenditure of the \$24,000 appropriated to carry out the provisions of the agreement with them, ratified by the act of February 13, 1891 (Stat. 26, p. 755), in the purchase of stock, agricultural implements, etc., so much so that they will not furnish him with information as to their wants, to enable him to submit an estimate therefor to this office, and that 35 or 40 of them have refused to accept their per capita shares of the annuity payment recently offered to them in pursuance of the provisions of section 6 of the act referred to.

The agent states that while a few of these Indians may be induced to receive stock, agricultural implements, etc., the balance would not, and would ever remain dissatisfied. In his last annual report the agent states that they feel that the price allowed them for their lands was less than should have been allowed, as compared with the price paid to the Sacs and Foxes, and that they desire to expend the money themselves in improving their allotments as they may see fit. The lands allotted to them are well suited for farming, and they understand comparatively well how to develop them, but have been prevented from so doing by reason of the small annuities that they receive and by a lack of agricultural implements.

In view of these circumstances I am of the opinion that it would be to their interest to make payment of the \$24,000 to them, in cash, and

with that end in view, I submit herewith a form of a proposed amendment to the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1893, now before the Senate, to provide for the payment of this amount to the Iowas in cash, and respectfully recommend that it be transmitted to the Senate for the consideration of that body.

Very respectfully,

T. J. MORGAN,  
*Commissioner.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

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*Form of a proposed amendment to the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1893.*

To enable the Secretary of the Interior in his discretion, to pay per capita in cash to the Iowa Indians in Oklahoma, the sum of twenty-four thousand dollars appropriated by the act of February thirteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, as a partial payment to them for certain lands in Oklahoma ceded to the United States, in lieu of expending the same for their benefit.

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